

SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, September 27, 2007, 7 p.m.

Board Chairman Charles Quale called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Ron Smith and Nancy Karjalahti, Treasurer John Brula, Clerk Candace Bartel, road maintenance employee Tim Turner; Pat Wussow, Aitkin County Administrator; and Mike Heaser, from *The Voyageur Press*.

Nancy Karjalahti moved to approve the minutes from the September 27th regular board meeting as distributed, seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried.

Correspondence: Aitkin County Association of Townships (ACAT) meeting notice & minutes were distributed; the Aitkin County Historical Society newsletter was received and will be filed for reference; information on water system planning & management training was reviewed.

Pat Wussow, new Aitkin County Administrator, introduced himself and stated he will be attending meetings in all county townships in the future. He was open to questions relating to county business. Charles Quale asked why the engineer's office still uses an old map (with T road numbers) for the road mileage certification; Pat will check on this. Nancy Karjalahti asked about the alternative shoreland management standards that were discussed at a recent county commissioner's meeting. Pat said the county board of commissioners will be reviewing and proposing changes to the county ordinance; the proposals will be listed on the county website. The county board will address this issue in late spring or early summer. Pat stayed for the rest of the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Building Project: Drafts of the financial information were distributed to board members for review before the October 11 meeting. Ron Smith reported the block work is going good; they are waiting for red steel. The construction trailer is onsite and the site supervisor (Nathan Carlson) has been assigned. The general contractor feels, if all goes as scheduled, by the third week in October the floor will be in place and the sidewalls will be up. Six inches of clean sand will be needed on the floor. It was clarified that the cost of power from the pole to the new building was included in the electrical bid. An additional legal description for the access easement was requested from Marvin Kohout; this is required by the bonding attorney. The well connection does not have to be done by a well installer or a plumber. Charles Quale questioned the option of ~~running power~~ *electric to the well, flagpole and to the new building along with the water line*. Nancy Karjalahti moved to allow the sewer installer to put in the water line from the well to the building; motion died for lack of a second. Nancy moved to get competitive quotes from the sewer installer and Jack Olson for installing the water line from the well to the building, seconded by Charles Quale; motion carried. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, giving authorization to Charles Quale, board chairman, and Candace Bartel, clerk, to sign all documents associated with the financing of the maintenance building project; motion carried.

Road Report: Tim Turner reported the timbers and other debris from the bridge have been removed, much time was spent on tree removal and chipping due to recent storms, the pump was replaced in the air compressor, they assisted with pulling the Lake Minnewawa Association weed harvester out of the lake, and roads have been graded. Tim was authorized to purchase a go light.

Nothing to report on the salt shed.

The road sign replacement program will be mentioned at the ACAT meeting in October.

Work on the public access off 493rd Lane should start either Sept. 28 or Oct. 1.

197th Road View – the road view was discussed. No board action was taken pending receipt of a petition to establish a new road. Pat Wussow stated the county ordinances will be reviewed relating to subdivisions.

Ron Smith contacted Resource Conservation & Development Council regarding dry hydrants. He is waiting to meet with a representative and inspect possible sites.

Clean-up Day: Six dumpsters were filled, a load of white goods was taken to Grand Rapids, a dumpster was ordered for the scrap steel, and tires were collected for pickup in the spring. Approximately 165 loads were brought in; \$149 in fees was collected. Ron Smith, Marvin Turner, and Matt Eidem were assisted by members of the Big Sandy Lake Association. One complaint was received about not having the LMA site open.

NEW BUSINESS:

The 2007 township mileage certification report from the county engineer was reviewed. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to certify the 2007 mileage of township roads maintained and open to public travel as 51.553; motion carried.

A quote \$10,306.00 was received from Morton Buildings in Grand Rapids for repairing the hail damage to the roof. It was submitted to the insurance adjuster for review. The board stated roof should be repaired as soon as possible. In reviewing the hail damage to the roof of the cab of the Sterling dump truck, the board decided to withdraw the insurance claim. There was concern about the length of time it would take to repair and the damage doesn't affect the use or value of the truck.

Cell phone tower: Several complaints have been received about the red light on the tower reflecting off the water and bothering residents.

Zoning Variance Requests:

1) Gary Kirt variance – requesting a variance to add additions, a deck, and porch to an existing structure on 197th Avenue. The board recommends following the established county ordinances; the board has no objection to the requested road setbacks.

2) Ron Lee variance – requesting a variance to build a new house and deck on 486th Lane. The board recommends following the established county ordinances.

The ANGELS group worked with a PBS station from the cities to make a video on their volunteer efforts and programs supporting senior citizens in our area. It will be televised in late October.

Ron Smith was asked to write an article for the Big Sandy Lake Newsletter. He addressed three issues requesting residents/property owners: 1) do not put leaves in the roadway, 2) do not push snow in the roadway and 3) do not park vehicles in the roadway during the winter.

Pat Wussow announced that Don Niemi, county assessor, will be retiring in February. There are several internal employees that are qualified for the position but it will be posted for outside applicants also.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Charles Quale
Shamrock Township Board Chairman

These minutes were approved as corrected at the October 11, 2007 regular board meeting.